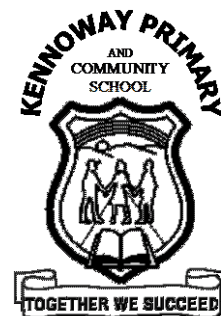


Term 1 Newsletter

September 2024

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September– October 2024
Our Parents & Carers as Partners



Dear Parents, Carers & Families

Welcome back Team Kennoway!



I hope everyone managed to have a good break over the summer, although if you are like me you might feel as though the weather felt nothing like summer, with the exception of a few days!

As usual the return to school is a welcome one for me. I am always glad to welcome back our children, our staff Team and parents, carers and families. It amazes me how quickly we get back into the routines of school and before we know it, it is time for the next holiday!

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Parent Open Evening on Tuesday 1st October 4-6pm. Please return your letter giving your preferred time no later than 26th September.

I have put together a few items for your information.

This term I continue in my role as Joint Headteacher across our school and Methilhill. My Kennoway days are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoon however I can be reached directly by email every day at jil.simpson@fife.gov.uk

Mrs Rodgers will have responsibility for our Nursery and P1, Mrs Lamb will oversee P2-4 and Mrs McGonagle will be Depute for P5-P7.

Mrs Cation remains as Principal Teacher on a temporary basis, with an overarching responsibility for Support for Learning & Pupil Support.

I continue to be Child Protection Co-ordinator for our school. Mrs Rodgers and Mrs Lamb are Depute Child Protection Coordinators; however, all staff have a safeguarding responsibility for all children.

A New Start

Our P1 children are already confident with the routines of school. They are walking smartly around our school, and have joined us for Whole School Assemblies and a Departmental House Family Assembly. Almost all have coped well with the transition from Nursery and this is due to the great work undertaken by our Early Years Team, my P1 Staff and you as parents and carers. Thank you.

Our new Nursery children have also started and are getting to grips with the routines.

School Uniform

Although School Uniform is not compulsory, and should not be a financial burden, our children have returned to school looking so smart, with almost all of our children wearing our school colours – it makes me so proud!



Attendance & Punctuality

I know that you will agree that regular attendance and arriving at school on time are so important in establishing and maintaining the routines of school and maximising opportunities to learn.

If your child does need time off school it is important that you let us know the reason why. Please contact us before 9am if possible so that teachers can be made aware and registers can be completed appropriately.

If you do not contact us to inform us either by phone, text or email then you should expect to receive a text message or call which will alert you that your child is not in school. I ask that you respond to the text by contacting school to let us know why your child is off.

The number for texting this service is **07860 003771**.



Please note that this number should only be used to inform us of absence.

If your contact details or address have changed over the holidays then please inform the school office so that we can update your contact details on our system.

As you are aware I regularly monitor attendances and punctuality across the whole school and keep in contact with parents about this.

Lunches and Milk

All lunches and milk should be paid using IPay.



Milk fund is open now and closes on 27th September for anyone wishing milk in term 2.

If anyone needs a code to access IPay please contact our Office Team.

Seesaw

Almost all parents/carers are now signed up for Seesaw.



Across this year we will be using Seesaw to deliver homework, share your Child's learning and progress in line with their learning targets and also to share information.

As a staff we are working to ensure that we deliver a consistent approach to Seesaw across all classes. Please make sure that you are signed up.

School Grounds Reminders

I love dogs, but can I just remind everyone that dogs (even if they are carried or very small) are not permitted in our playground and smoking is not permitted in our school grounds. This includes the use of electronic cigarettes and vapes.



Our children know that they should not ride their scooters, bikes etc. in the playground at the beginning or end of the school day when it is at its busiest with children, adults, prams etc.

Headlice

From time to time we have an outbreak of “visitors” in Kennoway! I would encourage all of you to continue your regular checks but should you and your child find yourselves in what can be a distressing situation, then please remember that you can register for minor ailments at your local community pharmacy and receive treatments, combs and bug buster kits for head lice, free of charge.



Medication

If your child requires medication of any kind to be given in school or nursery, parents/carers must ensure they complete the appropriate paperwork before any of our staff can administer or supervise medication. This includes inhalers.

Please ask the school office for the form.

Breakfast Café

Breakfast Café is open to children and adults, free of charge from 8.15-8.45am. The menu offers toast, cereal, fruit, milk, and water.



Please be aware that once children have finished their breakfast, they will return to the playground where there is no adult supervision. Children will not be permitted to remain in the hall.

Harvest

Our P2/3 and P3 Team will be organising a collection for Levenmouth Foodbank as part of our Harvest celebrations. If you would like to donate anything your items will be gratefully received.

Car Park

Those of you who have known me for a while will know that our Car Park is an ongoing issue.

Our Car Park is first and foremost for the Staff Team.

We are fortunate enough to have spaces protected for blue badge holders and I can understand frustrations when these spaces are taken by anyone who does not hold the necessary permit. I appreciate that these spaces are handy for access to Nursery or the main door to School but if you are not a blue badge holder you should not be parking your vehicle in these spaces.



I also have an ongoing concern about parking **across** the zebra crossing (unfortunately you have read that correctly!), on and around the mini roundabout which at times means that staff cannot get in or out at the end of the day.

I know that parking around our school is a challenge but please park respectfully and safely. We are more fortunate than many other schools.

Improvement Priorities 2024-25

This session we are focussing on how we can improve our attainment in Numeracy and Maths by evaluating how well we teach and assess all aspects of numeracy and maths. We are doing some work with the Methilhill Team to discuss different approaches and to analyse how well our children progress.

We are also developing our understanding of assessment across all curricular areas. This year Kennoway are focussing on Health & Wellbeing, Expressive Arts and Technologies. Staff groups are working together to plan high quality teaching, learning and assessments which will help us with a new tracking system that we will be using called "Progress".

Care Inspectorate

On 3rd September, the Care Inspectorate arrived at Kennoway for a 2-day inspection visit to our Nursery.



The Care Inspectorate take a rigorous approach in evaluating how well we meet the needs of our children across all 4 nursery rooms, by highlighting our many strengths and advising where we need to get even better.

Our feedback is overwhelmingly positive and all 5 indicators were evaluated as "very good". This is testimony to how hard all of our nursery Team work.

I am extremely proud!

If you provided feedback either in person or as part of a questionnaire, I would like to thank you very much.

Our Care Inspection Report is now available on our website and I know I am biased but is a great read!

Diary Dates



Tuesday 24th September – Parent Council Meeting 5.45pm

Tuesday 1st October – Parent Open Evening 4-6pm

Thursday 3rd October – Flu Vaccinations

Friday 4th October – Whole School Harvest Assembly 9.30am (Parents & Carers welcome to our Assembly Hall)

Monday 28th October – P1 and P7 Dental Inspections

Our school closes on Friday 4th October at 3pm and begins again on Monday 21st October.

Together we Succeed!

Kind Regards

Mrs Jil Simpson
Headteacher